



## SENATE BILL 576: Changes to Fees for Teacher Certification

2011-2012 General Assembly

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<b>Committee:</b>	Senate Finance	<b>Date:</b>	May 10, 2011
<b>Introduced by:</b>	Sens. Hartsell, Tillman, Preston	<b>Prepared by:</b>	Heather Fennell
<b>Analysis of:</b>	PCS to Second Edition S576-CSTD-31		Committee Counsel

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**SUMMARY:** *SB 576 would permit the State Board of Education to set higher fees for teacher certification and administration changes, would make the fees nonrefundable, and would require the implementation of an online licensure management system. The fees must be adopted by rule as established by the Administrative Procedures Act. The PCS allows the fee for "all other applications" to be increased up to \$125.*

**CURRENT LAW:** G.S. 115C-296 places the State Board of Education (State Board) in control of teacher certification. The State Board is authorized to charge fees for teacher certification and administrative changes as listed under "current fee" in the chart below.

**BILL ANALYSIS:** SB 576 would allow the State Board to adopt fees up to a certain amount for teacher certification and administrative changes based on the following schedule, and would create 2 new fees.

Application	Current Fee	New Fee
Demographic or administrative changes to a certificate.	\$30	Up to \$45
Duplicate certificate or copies of documents in certification files.	\$30	Up to \$45
Renewal, extension, additional, upgrade, and variation to a certificate.	\$55	Up to \$80
Initial application for new, in-State approved program graduate.	\$55	Up to \$80
Initial application for out-of-state certificate.	\$85	Up to \$125
In-State certificate review.	Not specified	Up to \$80
Verification of NC certificate for another state.	Not specified	Up to \$80
All other applications.	\$85	Up to \$125

The fees would be adopted by rule following the process established in the Administrative Procedures Act. Fees would be nonrefundable.

The State Board would be required to implement an online licensure management system to permit electronic submissions for teacher certification and administration changes. If online applications are able to be processed at less cost, the State Board must adopt lower fees for online applications.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** SB 576 would become effective July 1, 2011.

*Kara McCraw, counsel to Senate Education, substantially contributed to this summary.*

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